

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0484

CONFIDENTIAL USNATO 1244

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, NATO, XF, UR

SUBJ: DRAFT REPORT TO NATO MINISTERS ON MEDITERRANEAN (MED
REPORT): THE OIL SECTOR

REF: STATE 245103 NOV. 19, 1974

1. THE AD HOC GROUP WHICH MEETS SEMIANNUALLY TO DRAFT THE MED REPORT PRIOR TO EACH NAC MINISTERIAL WILL NEXT CONVENE APRIL 22-25. NATO INTERNATIONAL STAFF (IS) IS IN THE PROCESS OF RESEARCHING AND COMPILING MATERIAL FOR A FIRST DRAFT OF THE REPORT WHICH WILL BE ADDRESSED BY THE AD HOC GROUP. DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL (REFTEL) CONSIDERABLE WEAKNESSES AND LACK OF FOCUS FOUND IN ECON/OIL SECTION OF IS FIRST DRAFT OF THE PREVIOUS MED REPORT LAST NOVEMBER. FULLY AWARE OF ITS LACK OF RESOURCES NECESSARY TO DO A COMPETENT JOB ON THE IMPORTENT ECON/OIL SECTION OF THE DRAFT, IS HAS ASKED MISSION IF U.S. COULD FURNISH MATERIAL WHICH WOULD SERVE AS BASIS FOR FIRST DRAFT OF THIS PART OF THE REPORT.

2. COMMENT: MISSION BELIEVES IT WOULD BE IN U.S. INTEREST TO COMPLY WITH THIS REQUEST. BECAUSE OF COMPLEXITY THE MEDITERRANEAN/ MIDDLE EAST OIL SITUATION AND IN VIEW OF THE LIMITED RESOURCES OF THE NATO ECONOMIC DIRECTORATE, WE CAN EXPECT NO IMPROVEMENT
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ON LAST AUTUMN'S INADEQUATE FIRST CUT AT THE MED REPORT ECON/OIL SECTION WITHOUT OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE. WE SUSPECT THAT A CONCISE, SHARPLY FOCUSED U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO FIRST DRAFT OF THIS SECTION WILL RESULT IN LESS WORK FOR THE DEPARTMENT AND THE MISSION THAN

WOULD BE THE CASE IF, AS FOR EXAMPLE LAST YEAR, WE HAVE TO STRUGGLE TO RECAST A LONG, RAMBLING, DISTORTED NATO/IS-PRODUCED FIRST DRAFT. MISSION BELIEVES AD HOC GROUP SHOULD ATTEMPT, MORE SO THAN IN THE PAST, TO CONFINE THE MED REPORT TO AN APPRAISAL OF THE QUESTION OF SOVIET PENETRATION INTO THE MEDITERRANEAN AREA. THE ECON/OIL SECTION THEREFORE NEED NOT PRESENT A WORLDWIDE OIL PICTURE BUT RATHER ONLY THOSE ASPECTS THAT ARE IMPORTANT TO THE STUDY OF THE MED AREA FROM THE SOVIET PENETRATION POINT OF VIEW. AS FIRST DRAFT OF THE MED REPORT MUST BE CIRCULATED BEFORE THE END OF MARCH, INPUT IS REQUIRED BEFORE MARCH 15.

3. REQUEST DEPARTMENT INPUT BY MARCH 14.BRUCE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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